

What is claimed is:

1. In an image forming apparatus for forming a magnet brush on a developer carrier and causing said magnet brush to contact a latent image formed on an image carrier to thereby develop said latent image, said developer carrier comprises a sleeve and a stationary magnet roller accommodated in said sleeve,

said magnet roller includes a main pole for causing the developer to rise in a form of the magnet brush and an auxiliary pole helping said main pole exert a magnetic force,

a ratio of a distance between said image carrier and said developer carrier, as measured at a boundary of a nip for development, to a shortest distance between said image carrier and said developer carrier is 1.5 or below, and

an electric field including an oscillation component is formed between said image carrier and said developer carrier.

2. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the oscillation component has an asymmetric, rectangular waveform so configured as to reduce a period of time over which toner contained in the developer migrates toward said image carrier.

3. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the oscillation component occurs at least ten times within a

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period of time in which a given point on said image carrier moves away from a range in which the magnet brush remains in contact with said image carrier.

4. The apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the oscillation component occurs at least ten times within a period of time in which a given point on said image carrier moves away from a range in which the magnet brush remains in contact with said image carrier.

5. In an image forming apparatus for forming a magnet brush on a developer carrier and causing said magnet brush to contact a latent image formed on an image carrier to thereby develop said latent image, said developer carrier comprises a sleeve and a stationary magnet roller accommodated in said sleeve,

said magnet roller includes a main pole for causing the developer to rise in a form of the magnet brush and an auxiliary pole helping said main pole exert a magnetic force,

a ratio of a shortest distance between said image carrier and said developer carrier to a shortest distance between said developer carrier and a metering member, which regulates the developer, is smaller than 0.8, and

an electric field including an oscillation component is formed between said image carrier and said developer carrier.

6. The apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the oscillation component occurs at least ten times within a period of time in which a given point on said image carrier moves away from a range in which the magnet brush remains in contact with said image carrier.

7. The apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the oscillation component has an asymmetric, rectangular waveform so configured as to reduce a period of time over which toner contained in the developer migrates toward said image carrier.

8. In an image forming apparatus for forming a magnet brush on a developer carrier and causing said magnet brush to contact a latent image formed on an image carrier to thereby develop said latent image, said developer carrier comprises a sleeve and a stationary magnet roller accommodated in said sleeve,

said magnet roller includes a main pole for causing the developer to rise in a form of the magnet brush and an auxiliary pole helping said main pole exert a magnetic force,

a ratio of a shortest distance between said image carrier and said developer carrier to an amount of the developer scooped up to said image carrier is smaller than 10, and

an electric field including an oscillation

component is formed between said image carrier and said developer carrier.

9. The apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein the oscillation component occurs at least ten times within a period of time in which a given point on said image carrier moves away from a range in which the magnet brush remains in contact with said image carrier.

10. The apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein the oscillation component has an asymmetric, rectangular waveform so configured as to reduce a period of time over which toner contained in the developer migrates toward said image carrier.